

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A temperature control for a washing machine, the washing machine including a tub, a hot water valve, and a cold water valve, said temperature control comprising:

a first pressure sensor positioned to sense a full fill level in said tub and configured to generate a full fill signal when the tub is full;

a second pressure sensor positioned to sense an intermediate fill level, less than the full fill level, in said tub and configured to generate an intermediate fill signal when the intermediate fill level is reached; and

a controller operatively coupled to said first and second pressure sensors, and said hot and cold water valves, said controller configured to control said valves based on the fill signals from said pressure sensors to control a wash water temperature.

2. A temperature control in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said controller closes said cold water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a hot fill operation.

3. A temperature control in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said controller opens said cold water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a hot fill operation.

4. A temperature control in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said controller closes said hot water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a warm fill operation.

5. A temperature control in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said controller opens said hot water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a warm fill operation.

6. A washing machine comprising:

a tub;

a cold water valve for controlling flow of cold water to said tub;

a hot water valve for controlling flow of hot water to said tub;

a first pressure sensor positioned to sense a full fill level in said tub and configured to generate a full fill signal when the tub is full;

a second pressure sensor positioned to sense an intermediate fill level, less than full, in said tub and configured to generate an intermediate fill signal when the intermediate fill level is reached; and

a controller operatively coupled to said first and second pressure sensors and said hot and cold water valves, said controller operable to control said valves based on the fill signals from said pressure sensors to control a wash water temperature.

7. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said controller closes said cold water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a hot fill operation.

8. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said controller opens said cold water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a hot fill operation.

9. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said controller closes said hot water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a warm fill operation.

10. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said controller opens said hot water valve in response to the fill signal from said second pressure sensor during a warm fill operation.

11. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said first and second pressure sensors are independent.

12. A washing machine in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said first and second sensors comprise a single sensor having multiple trip points.

13. A method for controlling a washing machine during a hot water fill cycle, the washing machine including a hot water valve, a cold water valve, a first pressure sensor sensing a full fill condition, and a second pressure sensor sensing a predetermined intermediate fill condition, said method comprising:

setting a default mix ratio for the hot and cold water valves based on a desired warm water fill temperature;

starting the fill with the hot and cold valves at the default mix ratio;

closing the cold valve when the intermediate fill condition is reached;

continuing the fill with the hot valve opened until a full fill condition is reached, then closing the hot valve.

14. A method for controlling a washing machine during a hot water fill cycle, the washing machine including a hot water valve, a cold water valve, a first pressure sensor sensing a full fill condition, and a second pressure sensor sensing a predetermined intermediate fill condition, said method comprising:

setting a default mix ratio for the hot and cold water valves based on a desired warm water fill temperature;

starting the fill with the hot valve open;

setting the hot and cold valves to the default mix ratio when the intermediate fill condition is reached; and

continuing the fill until the full condition is reached, and then closing all valves.

15. A method for controlling a washing machine during a warm water fill cycle, the washing machine including a hot water valve, a cold water valve, a first pressure sensor sensing a full fill condition, and a second pressure sensor sensing a predetermined intermediate fill condition, said method comprising:

setting a default mix ratio for the hot and cold water valves based on a desired hot water fill temperature;

starting the fill with the hot and cold valves at the default mix ratio;

closing the hot valve when the intermediate fill condition is reached;

and

continuing the fill with the cold valve open until a full fill condition is reached, then closing the cold valve.

16. A method for controlling a washing machine during a warm water fill cycle, the washing machine including a hot water valve, a cold water valve, a first pressure sensor sensing a full fill condition, and a second pressure sensor sensing a predetermined intermediate fill condition, said method comprising:

setting a default mix ratio for the hot and cold water valves based on a desired hot water fill temperature;

starting the fill with the cold valve open;

setting the hot and cold valves to the default mix ratio when the intermediate fill condition is reached; and

continuing the fill until the full condition is reached, then closing all valves.